

## A New Genus and Species of Dacusini (Hym.: Braconidae)<sup>1</sup>

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In order to make the names available for use elsewhere, the following descriptions are offered at this time.

There are three genera of the tribe Dacusini Nixon that have hairy eyes. This hair may be short, sparse, and visible only at high magnification in strong light. The three genera may be separated by the following key:

1. Cell  $2Cu$  open below (outline of vein gone, though its former position may be indicated by fold in wing membrane and/or some dark pigment) . . . . . 2
- 1- Cell  $2Cu$  closed below by a definite vein (not just a fold and/or dark pigment); stigma short, wide; labial palps with 4 segments; females occasionally with abdomen greatly compressed and attenuated . . . . . *Chaenusa* Haliday.
2. Wing with vein  $R_s + M\&M$  gone (not just obsolescent), stigma short, wide; labial palps with 3 segments; female abdomen short; gonoforceps of male genitalia not stocking-shaped in lateral view; second valvifer of female genitalia with large phragma above insertion of ovipositor sheath, and dorsal plate of proctiger firmly fused to ninth tergum . . . . . *Chorebidella* gen. nov.
- 2- Wing with vein  $R_s + M\&M$  present or obsolescent (seldom completely gone), stigma long; labial palps with 3 segments; females of some species with abdomen greatly compressed and attenuated; gonoforceps of male genitalia stocking-shaped in lateral view; second valvifer of female genitalia with small or no phragma above insertion of ovipositor sheath, and dorsal plate of proctiger attached to ninth tergum by narrow rod . . . . . *Chorebidea* Viereck.

### CHOREBIDELLA gen. nov.

Head slightly transverse, somewhat concave behind when viewed from above; temples broad; eyes hairy, short oval;

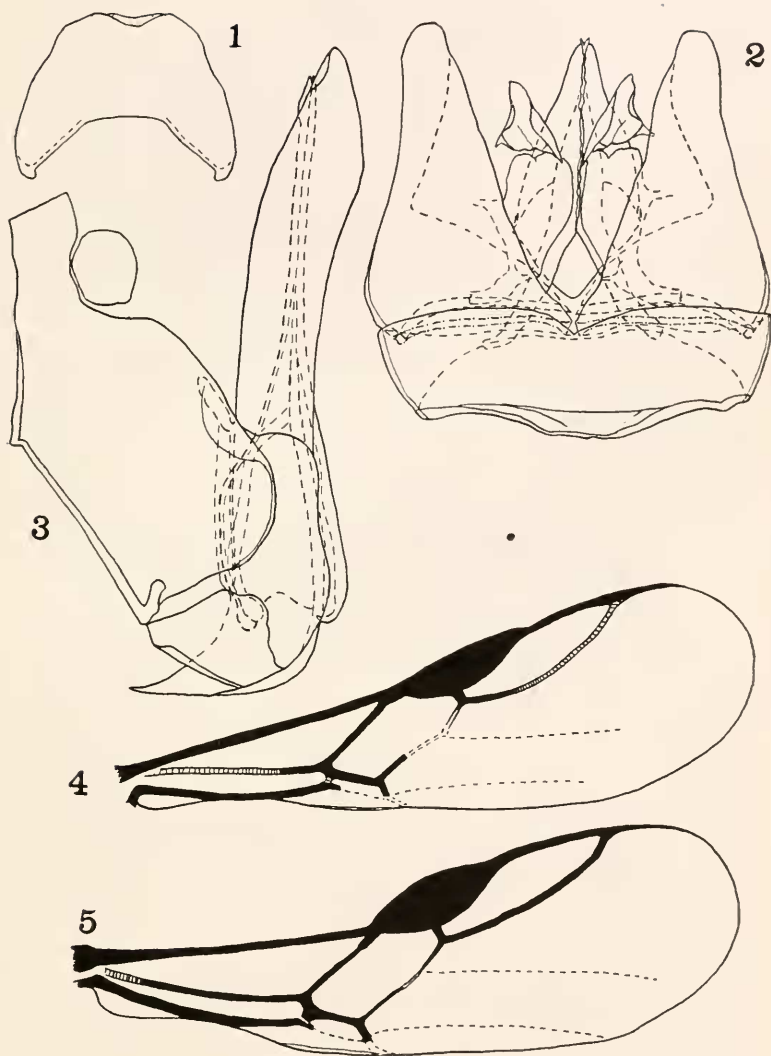
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clypeus prominent, long, with apical rim; maxillary palps 5-segmented; labial palps 3-segmented; frons with median elevation, not a definite carina; segments of flagellum of antennae with parallel longitudinal ridges; thorax shagreened and therefore with a soft surface appearance; notaulices not distinct; propodeum with median carina on dorsal face, posterior face areolated with fine ridges; anterior wing with vein  $R_s + M \& M$  completely effaced; cell  $2Cu$  open below; stigma prominent, ovate-lanceolate; vein  $R_s$  more or less evenly curved, apex remote from tip of wing; cell  $2R_1$  longer than stigma; petiole with longitudinal ridges, rather triangular, twice as wide at apex as at base; abdomen spatulate, depressed; fused second and third tergites longer than petiole; setation of tergites sparse, in a single row across each segment; tibiae incrassate; last segment of tarsi dilated; ovipositor slightly exerted; ninth tergum of female broadly joined to dorsal plate of proctiger; gonoforceps of male without dorsal elongations at tips.

*Genotype*.—*Chorebidella bergi* sp. nov.

This genus is related to both *Chorebidea* Vier. and *Chaenusa* Hal. It exhibits characters of both genera, and thus seems in some ways to bridge the short gap between them. However, considering the present state of our knowledge of this complex, it seems best to retain the three genera for the time being. Differences and similarities can be appreciated by studying the above key.

As for other characters, the shape of the petiole is nearer to *Chorebidea* than to *Chaenusa*, but the rest of the abdomen and the general habitus favors *Chaenusa*. The male genitalia of *Chorebidella* resemble those of neither genus very closely, though they tend to be more like *Chaenusa*. The latter differs in having accessory lobes on the gonolaciniae and differently shaped gonoforceps. *Chorebidea* differs in having extremely elongated gonolaciniae (when viewed ventrally), and peculiar stocking-shaped gonoforceps. The female subgenital plate of *Chorebidella* resembles that of most species of *Chaenusa*, and the female genitalia in general are definitely closer to *Chaenusa* than to *Chorebidea*.



## EXPLANATION OF PLATE

FIGS. 1-5, *Chorcibidella bergi* sp. nov. (All figs. not enlarged to same scale.)

FIG. 1. Apical sternite of female, ventral aspect.

FIG. 2. Male genitalia, ventral aspect.

FIG. 3. Female genitalia, left lateral aspect.

FIG. 4. Right fore wing of female.

FIG. 5. Right fore wing of male.

**Chorebidella bergi** sp. nov.

Color brownish-black; legs, especially trochanters (including distal end of coxae and proximal end of femora), slightly lighter in color; palps light brown; wings with stigma and veins brown, membrane with brownish cast; disc of mandibles and antennae, brown.

*Malc.*—Length, exclusive of antennae, about 2 mm. Head, as seen from above, transverse, being 1.4 times as wide as long; more or less impunctate and shining above, with a few scattered silvery hairs; eyes ovate, with sparse, fairly long setae; maxillary palps 5-segmented; labial palps 3-segmented; frons with a slightly shagreened appearance, a slight elevation longitudinally on upper half, not a definite carina; clypeus slightly projecting in lateral view, with a definite rim ventrally; antennae 19- to 22-segmented.

Mesonotum shagreened, with scattered fine silvery hairs; notaulices more or less lacking except for a median impression on the posterior third; mesopleuron and mesosternum shagreened, the latter with evenly spaced silvery hairs; propodeum rather evenly rugulose, but with several definite cells formed by raised lines; spiracles rather projecting, hidden under long silvery hairs; wing (fig. 5) with vein  $R_2 + M\&M$  missing, cell  $2Cu$  open below, stigma short, heavy, lanceolate, more prominent than in female.

Petiole 1.8 times as long as wide at apex, with several longitudinal uneven ridges; abdomen spatulate, about as long as head plus thorax; genitalia as in fig. 2.

*Female.*—About the same as the male, except for less prominent stigma (fig. 4); antennae with 16 to 17 segments; genitalia as in fig. 3, and apical sternite (subgenital plate) as in fig. 1.

*Holotype, malc.*—Third Sister Lake, Washtenaw County, MICHIGAN, emerged May 14, 1942, from puparium of *Hydrellia cruralis* Cresson collected May 3 on *Potamogeton amplifolius* Tuckerm. by C. O. Berg. Deposited in the U. S. National Museum (Type No. 59894).

*Allotype, female.*—Nichols' Bog, Cheboygan County, MICHIGAN, emerged July 30, 1941, from puparium of *Hydrellia* sp. collected July 5 on *Potamogeton oakesianus* Robbins by C. O. Berg. Deposited in U. S. N. M. (59894).

*Paratypes*.—CONNECTICUT: Mill River, Mount Carmel, Aug. 2, 1947, on floating leaves of *Nymphaea*, Kathryn M. Sommerman, 4 ♂♂, 1 ♀; same data except G. T. Riegel, 7 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀; same data except Aug. 4, 1947, on leaves of *Nymphaea* and stems of Cyperaceae, G. T. Riegel, 50 ♂♂, 3 ♀♀. MICHIGAN: Nigger Creek, Cheboygan Co., emerged Sept. 3, 1941, from puparium of *Hydrellia* sp. collected Aug. 21 on *Potamogeton alpinus* Balb. by C. O. Berg, 1 ♀. NEW YORK: Canadarago Lake, July 15, 1935, H. K. Townes, 1 ♂; Goodyear Lake, Milford Center, Aug. 20, 1935, on lily pads, H. K. Townes, 1 ♂.

Paratypes to be deposited in the collections of the U. S. N. M., the Illinois Natural History Survey, the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, the British Museum, the Canadian Dept. of Agriculture, the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, the Museum of Comparative Zoology, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and the personal collections of A. W. Stelfox (Dublin), Ch. Ferriere (Geneva), H. K. Townes (Raleigh) and the writer.

*Hosts*.—*Hydrellia cruralis* Cresson and *H. ascita* Cresson (Diptera: Ephydriidae).

This species is named in honor of Dr. C. O. Berg, Ohio Wesleyan University. Dr. Berg through his studies of the insect fauna of *Potamogeton* has greatly increased our knowledge of the semiaquatic Hymenoptera. Dr. Berg has informed me in correspondence that the only *Hydrellia* reared from the Aug. 21, 1941, collection from *Pot. alpinus* was *H. ascita*. Therefore, we can assume that *ascita* was the host of the female paratype from Michigan.

The series of specimens which I collected in Connecticut were taken with an aspirator from the floating leaves of a water lily (*Nymphaea*) and the stems of a sedge. The insects were very active in the bright sunlight of late afternoon, flying around the lily leaves which were heavily mined by fly larvae. None were taken on unmined leaves in shady places. Many other dacusines and many *Hydrellia* adults were present. At dusk the parasites left the lily pads for the sedge stems, where they congregated in numbers, all resting head upwards about three inches above the water line.